FALCON PRIDE

LAJES ELEMENTARY/HIGH SCHOOL

Lajes, Azores 12 September 2008

Principal: Ms. Mary Waller
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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Tuesday	September 16	Sure Start Meeting at 1730
Wednesday	September 17	AVID Induction/Family Night @1730-1830
Wednesday	September 17	Junior Varsity Volleyball at 1930
Thursday	September 18	Varsity Volleyball at 1930
Friday	September 19	Students Dismiss at 1115 am - Teacher Training Day
Monday-Friday	September 15-21	Bus Safety Week

REMINDER OF START OF SCHOOL DAY - For students in **grades 6-12**, the entry bell rings at **0745** and their first class starts at 0750 and ends at 1435. Students in grades 1-5 (unless they ride the school bus) should not arrive on campus prior to 0745 since there is no supervision prior to that time. **Elementary students begin at 0800** and end at 1435. Elementary students will wait in the courtyard of the elementary school wing in the morning. We have elementary students arriving as early as 0720. Please help us ensure your child is safe.

BUS SAFETY - Please make sure that your children are aware of the 10 School Bus Rules:

1. Obey the driver or adult.
2. Enter and exit the bus safely and always show your bus pass.
3. Stay properly seated.
4. Keep your hands, feet, and other body parts to yourself.
5. Do not throw things.
6. Do not put anything out the window.
7. Remain quiet and do not disturb the driver or others.
8. No profanity, smoking, prohibited items or vandalism.
9. Do not eat, drink, or chew gum.
10. Be responsible, be safe.

SUBSTITUTES NEEDED - If you are interested in becoming a substitute teacher, please contact Glenela Rajpaul at 295-57-4151 to find out more information.

STUDENT/PARENT HANDBOOK - All families will receive a copy of the Student/Parent Handbook. Copies will be mailed during the week of September 15. The handbook is also posted on our website for reference. Please familiarize yourselves with the content of the handbook. All policies, expectations, and general information are included.

VACATIONS - While living in Europe, families have extraordinary opportunities to travel. Please do remember, however, that school attendance is important as well. We encourage you to make every effort to schedule family trips when school is not in session. No make-up work can ever replace in-class instruction and participation. For your elementary child, please contact your child's teacher. If your family is going on a long awaited trip please note the following procedure for our middle/high school students:

Parents notify the school two weeks in advance of such trips to request leave for student.
Student picks up the Student Leave Form from Mr. Gronke or the office.
Students has teacher write the assignments during their absence.
All assignments are due on the first class meeting after the student returns from leave.
Gradespeed will be available for parents soon. Parents can check grades and assignments for their child.

OPT-OUT MILITARY RECRUITERS FORM - If you and/or your senior do not want Military Recruiters to receive requested student data for your senior student, please come by our office and pick up the Opt-Out Military Recruiters Form. The data is to be completed and returned to Mr. Gronke. If you have any questions, please call 295-57-4228.

SPORTS UPDATE - Many of the Lajes Varsity sports teams will have a new and improved look for their upcoming season! New team uniforms were purchased for Cross Country, Boy's Basketball, Girl's Basketball, and Cheerleading. With the new uniforms and the always impressive athletic talent, these teams are sure to dazzle the competition both locally and in Germany.

ASK A COACH - If you have any questions or concerns you would like to share with your child's coach, you can contact them through their email. Address your email to: firstname.lastname@eu.dodea.edu

TENNIS AT LAJES - The Lajes intramural tennis team is up and swinging. The team is open to Middle School and High School students attending Lajes E/HS. The team meets and practices daily (except Tuesdays) from 1500 to 1700. When the weather is bad the team meets in Coach Wood's classroom to learn scoring and court strategy. All team members must have a Sports Physical to practice. Interested students can contact the Coach Wood, in room 320 to ask about openings.

SPORTS SCHEDULES - The volleyball season at Lajes E/HS takes place during the months of September and October with practices everyday after school from 3:30-5:30 unless noted otherwise. We have two teams - Varsity and Junior Varsity. We will be playing the two teams in Praia for most of the season. Junior Varsity will have games on Wednesdays at 7:30 and they will play Praia's girls who are 15 years old and under. Varsity's games will be on Thursdays at 7:30pm and they will play the girls from Praia who are 15 years and older. All the practices and scrimmages will prepare us for the European Division IV Championships in Germany where we will play teams from schools such as Rota and Hanau. The Lajes Lady Falcons have the potential and the desire to be the best and we look forward to a successful and rewarding season. Come on out and support our team. Go FALCONS!

NURSE'S NOTES - Many parents wonder what the guidelines are for sending their children to school when they are not feeling 100%. If your child is not feeling well enough to be a productive student or has any of the following, please let your child convalesce at home until symptoms improve: a fever of 100 degrees or higher, had diarrhea within the last 24 hours, or has an excessive runny nose, cough or sneeze that interferes with their ability to fully participate with their peers. All students will be expected to be well enough to go with their class for recess and fresh air as well as to PE.

TAP-TARDIES AREN'T PERMITTED-Lajes Elementary High School is a community of dedicated learners. All of our students are expected to demonstrate excellence in their learning. One of the expectations for students in the middle and high school grades is that students arrive in class on time ready to learn. This maximizes their instructional time. We began issuing TAPs on September 2. Students who are tardy will be assigned a one-hour after school detention (TAP) at 1440 on the day they are tardy. Students will call parent to notify them of assigned TAP.

ELEMENTARY STUDENTS - Shoe Safety Reminder... Students must have gym shoes to participate in Physical Education. While shoe selection is a parent/student decision, shoes such as tennis shoes, shoes with heel straps, and shoes with covered toes are highly recommended. **Wear safe shoes (no sandals or crocs) and appropriate clothing to P.E.**

SCHOOL-HOME-COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS - About **FreeRice:** FreeRice is a sister site of Poverty.com. Their partners are the Berkman Center for Internet & Society at Harvard University and the United Nations World Food Program. FreeRice has two goals:

1. Provide education to everyone for free.

2. Help end world hunger by providing rice to hungry people for free.

We at Lajes High/Elementary want to be part of this project. We encourage young and old to join in collecting points for this cause. Turn your points in to your child's teacher, Mrs. Pat Brown at patricia.brown@eu.dodedea.edu or Ms Deisher at christine.deisher@eu.dodea.edu. Be part of the solution. Increase your vocabulary.

COUNSELOR NEWS - SAT/ACT-- If parents have questions concerning any of the testing items listed below, please call Mr. Gronke at 535-4228

1. The SAT I Exam will be administered on Saturday, Oct 4th.
2. The ACT Exam will be administered on Saturday, Oct 25th. Students need to register online by Sept 19th and to pick-up the $25 Wavier form from Mr. Gronke
3. All DoDDS 10th & 11th graders will take the PSAT Exam on Wednesday, October 15th

- The ASVAB Exam is scheduled for Oct 31st Interested juniors or seniors should contact Mr. Gronke.

YEARBOOK SAVINGS - Save money by pre-ordering your middle/high school yearbook 2008-09. By purchasing in advance, you can lock in the special rock-bottom price of $45. Your child can bring a check made out to "Lajes High School" to Ms. Evans in room 130. The price will increase, so reserve your copy today!

YEARBOOK PHOTOS - The yearbook staff needs your summer photos. Whether you took an exotic vacation or relaxed on the island, turn in your pictures or disks to Ms. Evans in room 130. Include a short caption that explains who is pictured and where they are.

CLASS RINGS - Any student interested in ordering a class ring from Jostens should see Mr. Rehak in room 132 for an information packet. Students and parents may also go online at Jostens.com and proceed with ordering. Rings may be ordered at any time this school year and take between 6 and 8 weeks to arrive at an APO address. If you have further questions you may contact our Jostens representative at **kerri.dolena@jostens.com**.

AVID INFORMATION - What is AVID? AVID stands for Advancement Via Individual Determination. The AVID elective provides academic and organizational support for continued success in rigorous classes. The ultimate goal of the program is for AVID students to successfully attend four-year universities. AVID at Lajes ES/HS is bigger and better than ever. This year, twenty-nine students and three student tutors are participating in the AVID program. The AVID induction ceremony for school year 2008/2009 will take place on September 17th.

MIDDLE SCHOOL CORNER -The Middle School is pleased to announce that we will once again have Tooney Awards in honor of the Middle School theme - Looney Tunes. A Tooney Award is presented to each student throughout the year for a unique talent, be it academic, athletic, artistic, etc. The first Tooney Awards will be presented Friday, September 19 during Advisory

PARENT COMMUNICATION - Communicating with your child's teacher or the school administrators is easy. The email addresses are listed at the top of the page. Teachers email addresses are FirstName.LastName@eu.dodea.edu. Please email us with any questions and/or any feedback.

MS/HS BINDERS – **Middle and high school students are required to have a binder.** Supply lists indicate that a four-inch binder is required. Due to availability, two or three inch binders are acceptable.

PTO PARENT TEACHER ORGANIZATION – **"We support our kids & we support our teachers" We** would like feedback from you on school portraits, what would you like this year. Also, look for pre-order forms for school shirts and coming in October, we will be operating the student store. And finally, be on the lookout for the PTO membership forms. For any concerns or questions, please e-mail Darlene Ciotuszynski at Lajespto@yahoo.com. Our first meeting will be in September.

CLOTHING ALERT–As a reminder, your shorts, skirts, and dresses cannot be any shorter than where your fingertips touch your legs when you stand up straight with arms straight down.